

**U.S. Embassy Lusaka, Zambia**  
**Security Message for U.S. Citizens - Holiday Security Reminders**

**December 7, 2012**

The U.S. Embassy would like to remind U.S. citizens to take the following precautions during this holiday season:

- Remember to keep your doors locked and windows closed and maintain good residential security habits. Residential burglaries are more common as thieves are aware that people may have gifts and other high-value items in their homes
- Don't try to do all of your holiday shopping at once. The more shopping bags you carry or pack in your car, the more inviting a target you make yourself.
- Don't leave items in plain view in your unattended vehicle. Place valuables in the trunk or in the rear of the vehicle and close your window screen.
- Maintain a good grip on all bags, parcels, and personal items while shopping or walking in public. Keep purses and bags closed, unless accessing them, and do not leave them unattended.
- Be cautious of persons representing themselves as collectors for charity. They may be attempting to gain access to your residence for actual crime or criminal surveillance of your property.
- Most importantly, maintain good awareness over all of your surroundings. Listen to your instincts. If they tell you something is awry,...HEED THE WARNING!

Please contact the local police and notify the U.S. Embassy if you are a victim of crime. The local equivalent to the "911" emergency line in Zambia is 999. Police response, particularly outside major cities, may be delayed due to a lack of vehicles and other resources.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

You can stay in touch and get updates by checking the [U.S. Embassy in Zambia website](#). You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of [Consular Affairs website](#) where you can find the current [Worldwide Caution](#), Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and [Country Specific Information for Zambia](#). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook at the Bureau of Consular Affairs page or download our free Smart Traveler App for iPhone and Android to have travel information at your fingertips. If you do not have Internet access, you can obtain current information about safety and security by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or, for callers from other countries, a regular toll line 1-202-501-4444. Respondents are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays).

If you are going to live in or travel to Zambia, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) (STEP). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. You should remember to keep all of your information in STEP up to date. It is important during enrollment or updating of information to include your current phone number and current email address where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

The U.S. Embassy in Lusaka is located on Ibex Hill Road, Lusaka. The Consular Section can be contacted at 0211-357-000 or via email at [ACSLusaka@state.gov](mailto:ACSLusaka@state.gov). For assistance after hours or in an emergency, you can contact us at 0211-357-000 or 0966-877-805.